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December 5, 2003

**BY FACSIMILE**

Ms. Kathleen Dutt  
Office of General Counsel  
Federal Election Commission  
999 E Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20463

**Re: MUR 5158**

Dear Ms. Dutt:

I am writing on my clients Bill Nelson for U.S. Senate, Robb for Senate and their respective treasurers to request an extension of time in which to respond to your letters in MURs 5158. Per our voicemail exchange of the last two days, I received these letters on Wednesday, November 26 -- the day prior to the Thanksgiving Day Holiday. Thus, normally, the responses would be due December 10. I am seeking an additional 20 days, until December 30, 2003.

The extension is necessitated by the intervening holiday, counsel's schedule in handling a number of other matters before the Commission that are subject to statutory deadlines (including several advisory opinion requests and other MURs), and the need to investigate the facts of this matter that is more than three years old. In the case of the Robb campaign, the extension is also required in order for counsel to ascertain the current status of the client. The Robb campaign is defunct and it is therefore difficult to ascertain the necessary information to file a response at all.

I appreciate your tentative favorable indication that you gave me this morning and appreciate your consideration of the request.

Sincerely yours,

Marc E. Elias

ME:

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